

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01

USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 L-03 OPR-02 PM-04 NSC-05 SS-15

OMB-01 /056 W

----- 054691

R 311122Z AUG 76

FM AMEMBASSY VICTORIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 092

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

ZEN DET 4 AFSCF MAHE ISLAND SEYCHELLES

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E.O. 11652 N/A

TAGS PFOR, MARR, SE, US

SUBJECT: FILM CENSORSHIP AT USAF FACILITY

REF: VICTORIA 152

1. CURRENT STATUS OF FILM CENSORSHIP ISSUE (REFTEL) IS THAT CO OF TRACKING STATION SENT LETTER TO ATTORNEY GENERAL ON AUGUST 17, INFORMING HIM THAT USAF HEADQUARTERS TAKES THE VIEW THAT TRACKING STATION IS NOT A PUBLIC PLACE. CO EXPRESSED HOPE THAT ISSUE COULD BE RESOLVED ON THIS BASIS.

2. ATTORNEY GENERAL'S INTEREST IN MATTER CAME ABOUT AS RESULT OF FILM CENSORSHIP BOARD EFFORT TO FORCE TRACKING STATION TO COMPLY WITH LOCAL CENSORSHIP PROCEDURES. CO HAD MET WITH AG AND OTHER INTERESTED PARTIES, BUT COULD NOT AGREE ON KEY QUESTION OF WHETHER FILM BOARD HAS JURISDICTION. THE JURISDICTION ISSUE HAS LONG HISTORY AND IS POTENTIALLY TROUBLESOME AS POINT OF FRICTION BETWEEN GOS AND TRACKING STATION. IT APPEARS TO HAVE BECOME PERSONAL CAUSE WITH MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, EITHER TO PROTECT BUREAUCRATIC FIEFDOM OR TO PLEASE OWNERS OF COMMERICAL CINEMAS IN VICTORIA.

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3. THERE HAS BEEN NO GOS RESPONSE YET TO CO LETTER, AND TRACKING STATION CONTINUES TO SHOW FILMS (FILM SCHEDULE NOW CARRIES NOTICE THAT SHOWINGS OPEN ONLY TO EMPLOYEES AND THEIR INVITED GUESTS). ALTHOUGH EMBASSY DOUBTS THAT GOS WILL ABANDON ITS OBJECTIVE AS RESULT OF U.S. DECLARATION THAT TRACKING STATION NOT A PUBLIC PLACE, THE BALL IS FOR THE TIME BEING IN GOS COURT. ISSUE MAY REMAIN DORMANT FOR A WHILE BECAUSE ATTORNEY GENERAL HAS JUST BEEN NAMED CHIEF JUSTICE ( TO BE EFFECTIVE LATER THIS YEAR AFTER HE RETURNS FROM LEAVE). SOONER OR LATER, HOWEVER, NEW ATTEMPT IS BOUND TO SURFACE, EITHER THROUGH NEW ATTORNEY GENERAL OR SOME OTHER CHANNEL. AT THE TIME, I BELIEVE IT WOULD BE APPROPRAITE FOR EMBASSY TO DISCUSS ISSUE FORMALLY WITH EXTERNAL AFFAIRS OFFICIAL OF OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT, AND TO REITERATE USG POSITION THAT TRACKING STATION IS NOT A PUBLIC PLACE.

4. DEPUTY CO OF TRACKING STATION (CO IS AWAY ON TDY) BELIEVES SYCHELLES REPS MAY HAVE ATTEMPTED TO RAISE FILM SENSIONSHIP QUESTION DURING TRIPARTITE TALKS IN LONDON ON TRACKING STATION AGREEMENT EARLY THIS YEAR. WOULD APPRECIATE KNOWING HOW MATTER WAS DEALT WITH, IF AT ALL, DURING LONDON TALKS.  
KAMMAN

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FILMS, CENSORSHIP, COMMUNITY RELATIONS, TRACKING STATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 31 AUG 1976  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** coburnhl  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1976VICTOR00172  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 76 VICTORIA 152  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** coburnhl  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 24 MAY 2004  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <24 MAY 2004 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <08 SEP 2004 by coburnhl>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
04 MAY 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** FILM CENSORSHIP AT USAF FACILITY  
**TAGS:** PFOR, MARR, SE, US  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006